

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board July Meeting
9:00 a.m. July 18th, 2025

Hybrid Online via Zoom and in person at 1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504, Room 259

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting.
- Draft minutes of May meeting.
- Office report.
- Financial report.

Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Allen Evenson

Roll Call

Board members present via Zoom and in person:

Alaine Sommargren	Janet Spingath	Randy Johnson
Allen Evenson	Jennifer Andreas	Ron Tebow
Eric Bell	Marci Miller	Todd Palzer
Ian Burke		

Others present via Zoom and in person:

- Mary Fee, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
- Anne Schuster, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
- Adam Pfleeger, Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Andrew Munson, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Christina St John, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Farren Reinbold, Lincoln County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Heidi Steinbach, Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Jennifer Mendoza, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Kodie Wight, Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Rahel Stampfer, King County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Seth Luginbill, Island County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Sue Bird, Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the May meeting.

VOTE	Randy Johnson	Moved to accept the minutes for the May 22 nd meeting.
	Alaine Sommargren	Seconded the motion.

<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.
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Board Member Comments

- Allan Evenson – It is a warm season, and the goatheads were going strong.
- Janet Spingath – Lakewood city parks were happy with the quarantine listing of ivy.
- Alaine Sommargren – There is some confusion from the public on the ivy quarantine listing.
- Randy Johnson – There were already big fires on the peninsula. Randy is always surprised at how holly grows in forests. Tansy removal was happening.
- Ron Tebow – Roadside spraying was going well.
- Marci Miller – Adams County was very dry.
- Ian Burke – An early spring led to lots of weeds in agricultural fields, especially creeping thistle and bindweed.
- Jennifer Andreas – Biocontrol releases were going like crazy, in addition to finding and prepping sites for crupina and flowering rush biocontrol releases.
- Todd Palzer – Field season was going strong. They are waiting for allotments, but did get approval for WCC continuation funding. The NPDES permit is coming up for renewal and public comment from the Department of Ecology.

Roberts Rules of Order

- The board went through a brief training on Roberts Rules of Orders for open public meetings and parliamentary procedure, led by Mary Fee and Marci Miller.
- The focus was on meeting flow of motions, debate, votes, and executive sessions.
- Allen would like to go over a little more of Roberts Rules of Order at each meeting, and the board agreed.

Office Reports

- Mary and Anne summarized the work they had been doing over the previous few months, including attending meetings, going over rule-making procedures, budget reviews, written findings creation, publication updates, and general correspondence.

Financial Report

- Mary summarized the financial report from the past few months. The big topics were that it was \$5000 over budget, printings were a big cost, and the Class A grants were coming out from the previous year. Greg Haubrich told Mary that they would rather be close and over than under, and have that amount be taken away in future budgets.

Budget Report

- Mary summarized the new fiscal numbers she received from WSDA for FY 2026. The board requested a budget committee to go over allotments, which Mary will schedule to happen before the September meeting.

Salary adjustment

- Mary discussed her salary adjustment request. The Executive Secretary position does not receive the step increases that the Education Specialist position, and many state employees receive.
- Alison had asked Mary to move this discussion to September, and noted that if approved an increase could be retroactive to July. Allen and Janet would like to hear Alison's points in September. A salary adjustment would impact allotments that the budget committee is looking at.

State Agency Updates

WSDA - Alison Halpern

- Alison is absent.

Committee Updates

Noxious Weed Committee

- Anne summarized the proposed additions, designation changes, a scientific name update, and a couple monitor list additions, which the committee had gone over.

Education Committee

- Anne summarized the discussions the education committee had over classes and webinars, curriculum, publications updates, common ivy being on the quarantine list, foxtails and pet safety, a nuisance plants list to go on the website, and holly education and outreach.
- The committee and board were in agreement that it is on-mission for WSDA to have a holly page on their website, rather than the weed board's website. This would avoid the appearance of promoting weeds or a specific agriculture type, when the board's mission is weed control and WSDA's mission is promoting Washington agriculture.
 - Anne will update the holly ID page to include more information on its history and legacy in Washington, and will link to WSDA's future holly page. WSDA can link to the board's holly page if they would like.

Douglas County Committee

- Mary summarized what had occurred with the forming of a Douglas County Committee.
- Douglas County and organizations within Douglas County did not respond to Mary on participating in a committee, or to Anne with resources for publications, receiving reports of weeds, or any other assistance available.
- Allen and Mary will form a committee. Ron is willing to be on the committee.
- The board was petitioned by surrounding counties and other counties to start this process.
- The state Attorney General office was in correspondence with Mary on this.

Discussion Topics

Class A and B Grant Applications and Selection

- Most counties who put in grant requests gave short talks and answered questions on their proposals.
 - Adams County
 - Asotin County
 - Chelan County
 - Clallam County
 - Cowlitz County
 - Franklin County
 - Island County
 - Mason County
 - San Juan County
 - Skamania County
 - Spokane County
 - Yakima County
- Typically there is \$20,000 available, and it is not certain what the FY26 amount will be, but it will probably be the same.
 - \$50,000 was requested total
 - \$39,000 if only the Class A projects were funded.
 - Jennifer Andreas stated that she is willing to not receive the \$2500-\$5000 the WSU Biocontrol Program usually receives, as she has gotten some grants, and she felt her program could go a year without the Board’s funding. This would reduce the amount of biocontrols available to counties however.
- The board discussed priorities, how everyone needs funding, and how to be consistent with giving out funds.
- Alaine determined and an amount to fairly distribute funds based on priority and with consistency.

VOTE	Janet Spingath	Moved to accept Alaine’s funding amounts for county Class A and B grant applications.
	Ron Tebow	Seconded the motion.
	<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Coordinators Forum

- Emily, Skamania County – The field season was going well so far. They are hiring for an education and outreach position, who will also facilitate the cooperative weed management area.
- Jennifer Mendoza, Cowlitz County – they are fully staffed, have been doing well on the treatment season, and they are also busy doing fairs and tansy pickups.

- Christina St. John, Clallam County – Was short staffed, but about to hire to be fully staffed. Weed growth was high because of the hot dry summer. There was still forest service funding.
- Farren, Lincoln County – Their inspectors have seen new species, that were not previously present, and are working on controlling them.
- Rahel, King County – They were in the midst of a busy tansy season. Ludwigia, a class A was found at a second site. WCC crews will be out. Hiring soon for an aquatics specialist.
- Allen, Grant Weed District 3 – He is having trouble dealing with the irrigation district and their infestations.
- Eric, Adams County – Season was going well, and had sent out a lot of notices. A few contracts and enforcements were ready, including on Bureau of Land Management, BNSF, and the County.

Public Comment

- No comments

The next board meeting will be on September 18th, at 9 a.m., via webinar and in person.

The board meeting adjourned at 12:05

Allen Evenson, Chair
WSNWCB

Carey Caruso, Secretary
WSNWCB

Mary Fee, Executive Secretary WSNWCB

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